

**Washington, DC** - On the eve of President-Elect Barack Obama's inauguration, Congressman John Barrow (GA-12) heeded the President-Elect's call to service by preparing care packages for our troops as part of the "Day of Service for Our Military" project.

"What a great way to kick off the new administration," said Barrow. "Today has special meaning for our country on so many levels.

It's the day before we inaugurate Barack Obama as our 44<sup>th</sup> President, but it's also Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

I can't think of a better way to honor Dr. King than by spending time doing something nice for others, and there's no one who deserves it more than the men and women who serve our country in uniform.

I'm grateful to Mayor Fenty and Operation Gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of something so meaningful."

Since 1994, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service has challenged Americans to transform the King Holiday into a day of volunteer service in honor of Dr. King.

"A Day of Service for Our Military" is a joint effort between Operation Gratitude, an organization that sends care packages to our troops stationed overseas, Washington DC Mayor Adrian M. Fenty, and Serve DC (the Mayor's Office on Volunteerism). The day's mission is to provide the opportunity for all Americans to express their appreciation to those who serve our nation in uniform.

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